



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Wei-Yu Lo et al.
Serial No. : 09/778,516
Filed : February 7, 2001
Title : LAC SHUTTLE VECTORS

Art Unit : 1636
Examiner : Pappu, Sita S.

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

#17B
Juta
Jan 6, 03

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 24, 2002

In response to the office action mailed August 24, 2002 ("Office Action"), please amend the application as set forth below.

In the claims:

Amend claims 10, 12, 13, and 14 as follows:

B+C -- 10. The Lac shuttle vector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the host cell being transformed is a Gram-positive bacterium, and the endogenous β -galactosidase gene of the host cell is non-functional.

B2 12. A kit for expression of a gene, comprising:
(a) the Lac shuttle vector as claimed in claim 1;
(b) a host cell in which the endogenous β -galactosidase gene thereof is non-functional; and
(c) a eukaryotic cell.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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